DARK HORSE COMICS

#2

THE GOON™

NOTHIN' BUT MISERY

by Eric Powell

THE GOON IN NOTHIN' BUT MISERY

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY
ERIC POWELL

COLORS BY
ERIC and ROBIN POWELL

DARK HORSE BOOKS®
MILWAUKIE

First edition:
editors SCOTT ALLIE & MATT DRYER

Second edition:
editor SCOTT ALLIE
assistant editor BRENDAN WRIGHT

designer AMY ARENDTS

president & publisher MIKE RICHARDSON

Neil Hankerson *executive vice president* • Tom Weddle *chief financial officer* • Randy Stradley *vice president of publishing* • Michael Martens *vice president of business development* • Anita Nelson *vice president of business affairs* • Micha Hershman *vice president of marketing* • David Scroggy *vice president of product development* • Dale LaFountain *vice president of information technology* • Darlene Vogel *director of purchasing* • Ken Lizzi *general counsel* • Davey Estrada *editorial director* • Scott Allie *senior managing editor* • Chris Warner *senior books editor* • Diana Schutz *executive editor* • Cary Grazzini *director of design and production* • Lia Ribacchi *art director* • Cara Niece *director of scheduling*

THE GOON™: NOTHIN' BUT MISERY

The Goon™ & © 2011 Eric Powell. All rights reserved. Dark Horse Books® and the Dark Horse logo are registered trademarks of Dark Horse Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. No portion of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the express written permission of Dark Horse Comics, Inc. Names, characters, places, and incidents featured in this publication either are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual persons (living, dead, or undead), events, institutions, or locales, without satiric intent, is coincidental.

This volume collects issues #1–#4 of *The Goon* and *The Goon Color Special*, originally published by Albatross Exploding Funny Books, as well as the short story "Die, Fish, Die!" originally published in the final issue of *Dark Horse Presents*. Yes, after setting creative milestones with the likes of Chadwick and Miller, *DHP*, possibly the greatest anthology comic of all time, ran a Goon story by Eric Powell, and was subsequently canceled.

Published by
Dark Horse Books
A division of
Dark Horse Comics, Inc.
10956 SE Main Street
Milwaukie, OR 97222

DarkHorse.com

To find a comics shop in your area,
call the Comic Shop Locator Service toll-free at (888) 266-4226.

First edition: July 2003
Second edition: June 2011
ISBN 978-1-59582-624-4

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed at Midas Printing International, Ltd., Huizhou, China

I HEAR TELL THE NAMELESS MAN, THE ZOMBIE PRIEST, CAME TO TOWN AND BUILT A GANG FROM THE DEAD! WITH ALL THE FOULNESS BEIN' DONE IN THIS BURG, HIS BUNCH GREW FAST. IT KEPT A-GROWIN' UNTIL HIS POWER WAS SECOND ONLY TO THE LABRAZIO FAMILY.
YEP, EVEN WITH AN UNLIMITED SUPPLY OF SOLDIERS, THAT NO-NAME RAT COULDN'T TOP OL' LABRAZIO. THAT'S 'CAUSE LABRAZIO HAD *HIM* WORKIN' FOR HIM. THAT'S RIGHT... *HIM!* EVEN THE UNDEAD FEAR *HIM!*
EVEN THE UNDEAD FEAR...
THE GOON

"THANKS TO THE GOON, ALL THEM DEAD FOLKS HAS TO STICK TO LONELY STREET...
LONELY St.
"...WHERE THE NAMELESS MAN RULES."
SPEAK!
I SAID TALK, YOU STUPID HEAD!
YOU'RE JUST MAKING IT MUSHY, SIR.
SWAP!
LAZLO, THE GOON KILLED THIS G-MAN BECAUSE HE KNEW WHERE LABRAZIO HAS BEEN HIDING OUT THE LAST TWENTY YEARS!
IF I CAN TAKE OUT LABRAZIO, THE GOON'S FINISHED IN THIS TOWN!
BUT I'VE TRIED EVERY SPELL, DEVICE, AND SERUM I KNOW, AND STILL I CANT REVIVE THIS THING.
DON'T LET IT GET YOU DOWN, SIR. THERE'S ALWAYS TOMORROW.
WAIT! THERE IS... SOMEONE.
THE SUN'LL COME OUT TOMORROW!
STAND BACK!
TOMORROW! TOMORROW!
MA OW! MA OW!

EVETS!
I'VE COME TO COLLECT MY FAVOR!
YOU! HOW DARE YOU POP UP HERE UNINVITED AND START MAKING DEMANDS!
COLLECT YOUR FAVOR INDEED!
I THINK IT'S FAVOR ENOUGH THAT I DON'T LET SLIP YOUR SECRET NAME TO THE MORTALS!

I KNOW SECRETS OF MY OWN, EVETS!
REMEMBER TAHOE... THE BUCKET OF BACON GREASE AND THE INFLATABLE CHICKEN?! DOES "MR. CLUCK CLUCK IS A DIRTY BIRD" RING A BELL?! WOULDN'T WANT THAT ONE GETTIN' OUT, WOULD YA?!
OH... VERY WELL. WHAT IS IT YOU REQUEST?
I NEED TO KNOW WHAT THIS MAN KNEW. I MUST REVIVE THIS HEAD!
SILLY FOOL! YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO YOU CAN'T REANIMATE A MORTAL WHEN THE BRAIN HAS BEEN DESTROYED!
GET A BOG LURK. IT MUST CONSUME THE HEAD. THEN, USE THE INCANTATION OF MALPHASTAK, AND THE BOG LURK WILL ATTAIN THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE DEAD MAN.
NOW BE-GONE!
IT'S TIME FOR CAKE, AND YOU CAN'T HAVE ANY!

AAA DAAAY AAAWAAAY!!
I GOT IT!
DA BU AY!
DAY WAY!
MEANWHILE, AT NORTON'S PUB.
NORTON, WHERE'S SPIDER?!
LIKE ALWAYS, IN BACK PLAYIN' CARDS.
GIMME THE USUAL, NORTON.
WHAT'S THE GOON'S BEEF, FRANKY?
BETTER YOU NOT KNOW, NORT.
YOU SORRY EIGHT-LEGGED DEADBEAT!
KER-
-ACK!

RUN, CHARLEY, RUN!
I WANT MY MONEY!
KRASH!
GOON'S GONE MAD!
I AIN'T GOT IT NOW! YOU GOTTA GIVE ME TIME!
BUT YOU GOT DOUGH TA PLAY CARDS WITH?!
KEEP UP THE LIP! I'M GETTIN' HAPPIER BY THE MINUTE!
ACK!
AH! HE'S STRANGLE CRAZY!
CHOMP!
AHH!
SSSSSSS!
NOW, GOON... CALM DOWN. YOU FORCED ME TO DO THAT.

POW!
PUT THE DAMAGES ON MY TAB, NORTON.
AND TELL SPIDER WHEN HE WAKES UP HE STILL OWES ME FIVE BUCKS!
FIVE BUCKS?!
IF I DON'T GET IT NEXT WEEK, I'M TAKIN' IT OUTTA HIS MOMMA'S HIDE.
SPI-DER... STILL... OWES... FIVE.

BOG LURK?
BA URK!
YES! LABRAZIO'S END IS ONLY A SIMPLE SUMMONING SPELL AWAY!

I HEAR... I COME.
I DON'T CARE WHAT THAT HOOCHIE-COOCHIE GIRL SAYS! IT AIN'T TRUE! AND BESIDES, I DON'T EVEN OWN AN INFLATABLE CHICKEN!

I'M JUST TELLIN' YA WHAT I HEARD.
STUPID CHICKEN.
MMPH!
SHUT IT, BOY! THESE PEOPLE DON'T PAY ME GOOD PROTECTION MONEY TO LET TWO-BIT HOODS KNOCK OVER THE LOCAL ICE-CREAM MAN!
BEAT HIM LIKE UGLY DOG WITH ONE EYE AND MANGE!
OKAY, KIDS! FIRST ONE TO HIT HIM BETWEEN THE EYES WITH A ROCK GETS A DOUBLE SCOOP ON ME!
ICE
YOU GOOD MAN, MISTER GOON. NO-GOOD POLICE HELP NO ONE THIS PART OF TOWN. YOU KEEP ZOMBIES OUT AND STREETS SAFE.
MMMMPH!
DON'T MENTION IT. WHERE'S MY MONEY?
HEY! THAT FAT KID JUST CLOCKED HIM IN THE GROIN WITH A BRICK. WAY TA GO, FATTY!
WHOA, CHECK OUT THAT SASQUATCH HOOFIN' IT DOWN THE STREET!

YOU SUMMONED AND I HAVE COME!
YES, COME IN, COME IN! I HAVE ONLY ONE SMALL REQUEST, ONLY TAKE A MOMENT OF YOUR TIME.
EAT THIS HEAD!
YOU'RE CRACKERS! 'AT'S NASTY! T'AIN'T EVEN COOKED! I CAN'T BELIEVE YA DRUG ME ALL THE WAY OUT 'ERE FOR THAT, YA CRUDE LITTLE BUGGER! YA OUGHTA BE ASHAMED!
OPEN UP! IT TASTES JUST LIKE CHICKEN!
HERE COMES THE AIRPLANE.

GULP!
G-GOON KILLED ME.
NO!

GWAAH!
WAIT, G-MAN, IT'S ME, THE PRIEST!
TELL ME WHERE LABRAZIO IS!
MORON! LABRAZIO IS DEAD!
THE GOON KILLED ME BECAUSE I SAW HIS GRAVE!*
HE KILLED HIM!
HE KILLED ME!
YES! LABRAZIO IS GONE! NOW THE ZOMBIES WILL RULE!
NO, LAZLO. THIS MAKES THINGS WORSE.

*THE GOON VOLUME 0: ROUGH STUFF

I SWEAR! TWENTY FEET AT LEAST!
HA! DID THEY EVER FIND THE SQUIRREL?
CLUNK!
HEY, THAT SWAMP MONKEY DONE CHUCKED A ROCK AT YA!
MONKEY'S GONNA LEARN YA DON'T MESS WITH A MAN WHEN HE'S EATIN' HIS ICE CREAM!
YOU KILLED ME!

WRONG TENSE, PAL! I'M GONNA KILL YA!
WHAT?! DON'T RECOGNIZE ME?! DON'T RECOGNIZE THE G-MAN YOU PIG-STUCK BETWEEN THE EYES?!
AW FER PETE'S SAKE...
LET ME GUESS, THE PRIEST HAD SOMETHIN' TA DO WITH PUTTIN' YER BRAIN IN THAT THING.
RIGHT IN ONE, YA DOPE! AND I TOLD HIM ALL ABOUT LABRAZIO'S LITTLE SECRET!
I TOLD HIM ALL A--

YOU DIRTY EGG-SUCKIN' DOG!

POW!
CLUD!
UMPH!
FAST.
HEY, WHERE YOU GOIN'?!

SNAP!
AW CRAP.
AHH!
SHUNK!
HA!
HA!
HA!
Stamp
Stamp
HEY, MONKEY, CATCH!
HUH?
SNATCH!

GOON, PULL THE STRING!
YOINK!
BOOF!
WAH!
THUD!

WELL, LOOKS LIKE FRANKY'S QUICK THINKIN' SAVES THE DAY AGAIN!
THUMP!
DON'T OWN AN INFLATABLE CHICKEN?!
OH, SHUT UP!
WHEN YER DONE SULKIN' OVER THERE ABOUT YER BLOW-UP POULTRY, HOW ABOUT PULLIN' THIS FRICKIN' ANTENNA OUTTA MY BACK!
SO, WHATTA WE GONNA DO ABOUT THIS LABRAZIO THING?
NUTHIN'.
OOOH. WHY IS IT EVERYTIME I COME TA TOWN I END UP UNCONSCIOUS IN A DITCH WITH A RUBBER CHICKEN AND NO IDEA HOW I GOT THERE?

I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
LABRAZIO IS DEAD. IT'S WHAT WE'VE ALWAYS WANTED!
THE GOON'S BEEN PLAYING ME, YOU MORON! AND NOW HE'S JUST AS FEARED AS LABRAZIO EVER WAS!
IT'S SO OBVIOUS NOW! LABRAZIO NEVER WENT INTO HIDING! THE GOON KILLED HIM AND USED HIS NAME TO TAKE OVER THE TOWN!
HE HASN'T BEEN STICKING TO THE LABRAZIO STORY BECAUSE HE HAD TO-- HE'S BEEN STICKING TO IT TO DISTRACT ME!
THE GOON'S NOT THE BIG DUMB DOPE I TOOK HIM FOR! THE GOON'S RUNNING THE SHOW!
ALL THE YEARS... WASTED TRYING TO KILL A DEAD MAN...

TH' END

EMPIRE